

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2011**  
Prepared on October 26, 2011

**ITEM NUMBER:** 19

**SUBJECT:** Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements, Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0048127 for the City of Lompoc Wastewater Reclamation Plant, Santa Barbara County, Order No. R3-2011-0211

**STAFF CONTACT:** Peter von Langen 805/549-3688 or [pvonlangen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:pvonlangen@waterboards.ca.gov)

**KEY INFORMATION**

Location: 1801 West Central Avenue, Lompoc, California  
Type of Discharge: Treated municipal wastewater  
Permitted Flow: 5.5 million gallons per day (MGD; dry weather flow design capacity)  
Average Annual Flow: 5.0 MGD  
Type of Treatment: Tertiary treatment followed by ultraviolet (UV) disinfection  
Disposal Method: Surface water discharge to San Miguelito Creek, tributary to the Santa Ynez River  
Solid Wastes: Primary and secondary solids are digested and dried on-site for composting  
Existing Orders: Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2006-0037  
Reclamation: The Discharger intermittently reclaims treated wastewater for on-site dust control and landscape irrigation.  
**This Action:** **Adopt Order No. R3-2011-0211**

**SUMMARY**

The City of Lompoc (City) owns and operates a municipal wastewater reclamation plant and discharges the treated wastewater to San Miguelito Creek, which is a tributary to the Santa Ynez River. The facility provides treatment and disposal of municipal wastewater for the City, Vandenberg Village Community Services District (CSD), and Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB). The CSD and VAFB own and operate wastewater collection systems tributary to the City's collection system.

The Discharger completed major upgrades to the facility in November 2009. The new wastewater handling and treatment system includes mechanical bar screens, an aerated grit tank, two parallel oxidation ditches, three secondary clarifiers, tertiary filters, and UV disinfection. Sludge handling includes two dissolved air floatation thickeners, aerobic sludge digesters, two sludge lagoons, drying beds, and offsite disposal. The facility also maintains an emergency retention basin for use during events of disinfection maintenance, spills, and other emergency situations. The proposed Order contains findings that will allow the City to implement a sewer ordinance to control the use of self-regenerating water softeners.

## CHANGES FROM THE EXISTING ORDER

The proposed Order is structured in accordance with the statewide NPDES permit template. The proposed Order is consistent with the previous Order with the exception of the following substantive changes/modifications:

- The facility underwent major upgrades in 2009, which included discontinuing use of chlorine disinfection and introducing UV disinfection. Therefore, the effluent limitations for total residual chlorine in the previous Order have not been retained in this Order.
- Salt and Nutrient Management Plan reporting requirements have been added to this Order to help identify and reduce salt and nutrient loading in effluent. This salt/nutrient management report will be included as part of the annual report.
- Additional effluent limitations for aluminum, bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, and fecal coliform have been established in this Order as described in section IV.C of this Fact Sheet. Quarterly effluent monitoring for bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate has been established for the first year of monitoring to determine if the exceedance of water quality criteria was due to sample contamination.
- The Order requires the Discharger to implement a Nutrient Management Program as described in section VII.B.3.a of this Fact Sheet, with the ultimate goal of controlling levels of nutrients discharged from the Facility.
- Effluent limitations for copper, mercury, molybdenum, chlorodibromomethane, and dichlorobromomethane have not been retained from the previous Order. The elimination of these WQBELs is consistent with the exception to the Clean Water Act's anti-backsliding requirements expressed at §402 (0)(2)(B)(i) of the Act.
- The effluent limitation for fecal coliform replaces the effluent limitation for total coliform. This is appropriate since the Basin Plan does not include a water quality objective for total coliform for the REC1 beneficial use.

## COMMENTS

Central Coast Water Board staff received comments from the City on August 26, 2011. Comments and staff responses are contained within Section VIII.B. of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) starting on page F-45.

## RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Order R3-2011-0211, as proposed.

## ATTACHMENT

For copies, please refer to the Central Coast Water Board's internet website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\\_info/agendas/2011/2011\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2011/2011_agendas.shtml)

1. Proposed Order No. R3-2011-0211, including the following attachments:
  - Attachment A – Definitions
  - Attachment B – Map
  - Attachment C – Flow Schematic

Attachment D – Standard Provisions

Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP)

Attachment F – Fact Sheet

S:\Shared\NPDES\NPDES Facilities\Santa Barbara Co\Lompoc Regional WWTP\2011 WDR renewal\Draft Permit\Changes from public comments\R3-2011-0211 Staff rpt.doc